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In the claims:

1. (currently amended) Apparatus for use by a wireless device in a wireless communications

environment including multiple access points and stations, wherein stations gain network access

by associating with one of the access points, comprising:

     logic for associating the wireless device with a current access point on one a first channel;

     logic for ascertaining, by the wireless device, whether the wireless device should attempt

to associate with an alternative access point operating on a second another channel, the

ascertaining logic employing, at least in-part, indications of signal strengths of transmissions from

the current and alternative access points; and

     logic for requesting association with the alternative access point operating on another

channel if it is ascertained that the wireless device should attempt to associate with said alternative

access point.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

     logic for automatically collecting, by the wireless device, information about access points

operating on other channels.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the logic for ascertaining ascertains that

the wireless device should attempt to associate with the alternative another access point operating

on said different second channel if the alternative access point on said different second channel is

closer than the current access point.

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4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the logic for ascertaining ascertains that the alternative access point on said different second channel is closer than the current access point by:

calculating a first biased distance between the wireless device and the current access point based on "x" samples;

calculating a second biased distance between the wireless device and the alternative access point operating on said another second channel based on "y" samples where "y" is less than "x"; and

ascertaining that the alternative access point operating on said another second channel is closer than the current access point if the second biased distance is less than the first biased distance.

5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the logic for requesting association requests association by sending a message to the access point operating on said another second channel.